

**NEVADA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
NEVADA STATE BOARD FOR CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION**

Notice of Workshop to Solicit Comments on Proposed Regulation

The Nevada State Board of Education and The Nevada State Board for Career and Technical Education is proposing regulation language pertaining to the Nevada Administrative Code. The Workshop has been scheduled for **April 18, 2016** via video conference at the following locations: **Nevada Department of Education Offices, Board Conference Room, 700 East Fifth Street, Board Room, Carson City and 9890 South Maryland Parkway, 2nd Floor Board Conference Room, Las Vegas, Nevada.** The purpose of the Workshop is to solicit comments from interested person on the following general topics to be addressed in a proposed regulation:

1:00 p.m. Workshop to Solicit Comments on Proposed Amendments to R050-16; NAC Chapter 385 and NAC Chapter 389. The proposed amendment to NAC 385.408 Minimum passing scores - changes the standard score for the GED® Test from 150 to 145. The proposed amendment to NAC 389.694 Waiver of credits for adult standard diploma - changes the scores which a person must achieve on the GED Testing Service (2014 Series) assessment to waive credits for an adult standard diploma.

A copy of all materials relating to the proposal may be obtained at the workshop or by contacting by telephone Karen Johansen, State Board of Education Office, Nevada Department of Education, at 775-687-9225, or in writing to the Department of Education, 700 East Fifth Street, Carson City, Nevada 89701-5096. A reasonable fee for copying may be charged.

This Notice of Workshop to Solicit Comments on Proposed Regulation has been sent to all persons on the agency's mailing list for administrative regulations and posted at the following locations: The offices of the Nevada Department of Education in Carson City and Las Vegas, the 17 Nevada School District Superintendents' Offices, the 17 Nevada County main public libraries, the Nevada State Library and Archives, and at the meeting locations.

BRIAN SANDOVAL
Governor

STEVE CANAVERO, Ph.D.
Superintendent
of Public Instruction

STATE OF NEVADA



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**SMALL BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT
PURSUANT TO NRS 233B.0608**

Date: March 31, 2016

Re: Workshop to Adopt Regulations Concerning Career and Technical Education, scheduled for April 18, 2016.

I, Michael J. Raponi, Director of the Office of Career Readiness, Adult Learning & Education Options, do hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge or belief:

1. The proposed amendments to NAC Chapters 385 and 389 concerning the standard passing score for the General Educational Development (GED) test are not likely to (a) impose a direct or significant economic burden upon a small business, or (b) directly restrict the formation, operation or expansion of a small business. The proposed regulation amendments will change the standard score from 150 to 145 as per changes required by the GED Testing Service.
2. The proposed changes to the standard score, if approved retroactively to January 2014 as recommended, will impact students who took the GED and scored 145-149 but did not receive a Certificate of High School Equivalency. This change will not result in any additional economic burden that would result from these amendments.
3. All relevant materials were reviewed and the Department considered its history with implementing similar regulations; the proposed changes are within the historic scope of the Department's activities and present no significant cost of enforcement.
4. Comment has not been solicited from small businesses, and no summary of their response is provided because small businesses are not impacted by this regulation and thus no burden or economic impact can be assessed. Any impact is positive and was considered during legislative testimony.

I hereby further certify that, to the best of my knowledge or belief, a concerted effort was made to determine the impact of the regulation on small businesses and that the information contained in this statement was prepared properly and is accurate.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael J. Raponi", with a stylized flourish at the end.

**PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

LCB File No. R050-16

March 28, 2016

EXPLANATION – Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets [omitted material] is material to be omitted.

AUTHORITY: §§1 and 2, NRS 385.080 and 385.448.

A REGULATION relating to education; revising the minimum passing score for certain high school equivalency assessments; revising the required scores on certain high school equivalency assessments needed to waive credits; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law requires the State Board of Education to select an assessment which enables a person who satisfies certain requirements to demonstrate that he or she has achieved an educational level which is an acceptable substitute for completing a high school education by taking a high school equivalency assessment. (NRS 385.448) Existing regulations: (1) adopt the General Educational Development Test, the HiSET Exam and the Test Assessing Secondary Completion as high school equivalency assessments; and (2) prescribe the minimum passing score for each assessment. (NAC 385.408) **Section 1** of this regulation changes, from 150 to 450, the minimum passing score for the General Education Development Test, if the test was taken before January 1, 2014. **Section 1** also provides that 145 is the minimum passing score for the General Education Development Test, if the test was taken on or after January 1, 2014.

Existing regulations authorize a person who passes the tests of general educational development to waive the units of credit required for an adult standard diploma if he or she: (1) is at least 18 years of age; or (2) is at least 17 years of age and is enrolled in an alternative program for the education of pupils at risk of dropping out of school established by a school district pursuant to NRS 388.537. (NAC 385.404, 389.694) Existing regulations also prescribe the minimum score that is required to waive credits and the corresponding number of credits which can be waived. **Section 2** of this regulation revises the minimum scores required on the General Education Development Test in order to waive certain numbers of credits.

Section 1. NAC 385.408 is hereby amended to read as follows:

385.408 1. Pursuant to NRS 385.448, the State Board hereby selects the following as high school equivalency assessments:

- (a) The General Educational Development Test;
- (b) The HiSET Exam; and
- (c) The Test Assessing Secondary Completion.

2. The minimum passing score:

(a) For the General Educational Development Test is a standard score of ~~{150}~~ *at least 450* on each of the four subtests ~~{1}~~, *if the test was taken before January 1, 2014.*

(b) *For the General Educational Development Test is a standard score of at least 145 on each of the four subtests, if the test was taken on or after January 1, 2014.*

(c) For the HiSET Exam is a standard score of 8 on each of the five subtests and an average standard score of 9 on the five subtests.

~~{(c)}~~ (d) For the Test Assessing Secondary Completion is a standard score of 500 on each of the five subtests.

Sec. 2. NAC 389.694 is hereby amended to read as follows:

389.694 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, a person who is 18 years of age or older and who seeks an adult standard diploma may waive units of credit for language arts, mathematics, science and social studies by taking a high school equivalency assessment in those subjects. A person who seeks an adult standard diploma who is at least 17 years of age but less than 18 years of age and who is enrolled in an alternative program for the education of pupils at risk of dropping out of school established by a school district pursuant to NRS 388.537 may waive units of credit pursuant to this section.

2. The maximum number of credits which may be waived in the areas of language arts, mathematics and science must be based on the number of credits previously earned which meet the minimum requirements for course content outlined in NAC 389.450 to 389.511, inclusive, and the credits waived upon the completion of a high school equivalency assessment selected pursuant to NRS 385.448.

3. Credits in elective courses may be waived only in the area of social studies. The maximum number of credits which may be waived in the area of social studies must be based on a high school equivalency assessment selected pursuant to NRS 385.448.

4. The following tables set forth the scores which a person must achieve on a high school equivalency assessment to waive credits in required and elective courses and the corresponding number of units which may be waived:

General Educational Development Test (2002 Series)

Subject	Designation of Test	Maximum Number of Units	
		For Score of 450 to 499.9	For Score of 500 or higher
English	I and IV (average)	2	4
Mathematics	V	1	3
Science	III	1	2

Subject	Designation of Test	Maximum Number of Units	
		For Score of 450 to 499.9	For Score of 500 or higher
Social Studies	II	1	2

General Educational Development Test (2014 Series)

Subject	Designation of Test	Maximum Number of Units	
		For Score of 150 145 to 162 157	For Score of 163 158 or higher
Language Arts	I	2	4
Mathematics	II	1	3
Science	III	1	2
Social Studies	IV	1	2

HiSET Exam (2014 Series)

Maximum Number of Units

Subject	Designation of Test	For Score of 10 or 11	For Score of 12 or higher
Language Arts	I and V (average)	2	4
Mathematics	II	1	3
Science	III	1	2
Social Studies	IV	1	2

Test Assessing Secondary Completion (2014 Series)

Subject	Designation of Test	Maximum Number of Units	
		For Score of 500 to 529	For Score of 530 or higher
Language Arts	I and V (average)	2	4
Mathematics	II	1	3
Science	III	1	2
Social Studies	IV	1	2